



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Web: [www.asaa.org](http://www.asaa.org)

## **Adopted Minutes of the ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting October 6-7, 2025**

More information may be obtained from an ASAA Board member ([board@asaa.org](mailto:board@asaa.org)) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

**Call to Order** — the meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. October 6, 2025.

### **Roll Call:**

Region 1 – Patrick Callahan - Present

Region 2 – James Sickler - Present

Region 3 – Stacia Rustad - Present

Region 4 – Tim Helvey - Present

Region 5 – Jaime Cabral - Present

Region 6 – Wayne Sawchuk - Present

AASB – Margo Bellamy - Present

AASA – Jim Holien – Present

- Jim Holien was absent for the October 7 portion of the meeting

AASG – Leif Konrath-Bera – Present

### **Approval of the Consent Items –**

- a. Approval of Minutes from May 5, 2025 Meeting
- b. Waiver Report
- c. Out-of-State Travel
- d. Contest Ejection Report
- e. Financial Report
- f. Cooperative Schools Report
- g. Endowment Report
- h. Eighth Grade Student Eligibility Request Report

Motion and second “to approve the consent items”  
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



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**Ordering and Approval of the Agenda–**

Motion and second “to approve the agenda as amended”  
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

**Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items – none**

**Reports –** The Board of Directors was provided with the following reports:

- Board Members
- Student Government
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Officials
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Coaches and Admin Trainings
- TAD Reports
- Hall of Fame
- SMAC
- Activities Committees
- Executive Director



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**Action Items** – The Board of Directors acted as follows:

➤ **3A Volleyball State Roster Size:** motion and second “to increase the state roster size for 3A Volleyball to 14.”:

Motion failed (6-2)

- Advisory: (Y) AASG
- (N) Region 1, Region 2, Region 4, Region 5, ASA, AASB
- (Y) Region 3, Region 6

Note: the teams in the “at-large” pool and the method for selecting the team will be determined by the December 2025 ASAA Board of Directors meeting.

➤ **Shot Clock Rules:** motion and second “adopt the proposed shot clock protocols using the option #3 recommendation for Section 1 Article 3:

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The complete shot clock policy and protocols can be found here:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/Adopted-Shot-Clock-Rules-10-6-25.pdf>

➤ **Shot Clock Use in Games Involving Lower Classifications Policy:** motion and second “to allow schools classified below 4A to compete against another school using a 35-second shot clock if both schools mutually agree.

Note:

- The agreement to use a shot clock must be made in writing at the time the game is scheduled.
- The written consent should be retained by both schools and provided to the game officials prior to the contest.

Implementation:

- If written consent is provided, the game shall be administered under the same shot-clock rules as required for 4A contests.
- If no written consent exists, the game will be played under standard NFHS timing rules without the use of a shot clock, even if the equipment is available.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **RPI Formula:** motion and second “to change the weights of the RPI formula to a team’s winning percentage (40%), their opponent’s winning percentage (30%) and their opponent’s opponent’s winning percentage (30%) for all activities in which the RPI is used for seeding and at-large selections.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Flag Football Playing Rules :** motion and second “to adopt the NFHS rules, with ASAA modification for the activity of Flag Football.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: The modifications for the field size, overtime and mercy rules will be determined at a future date.

➤ **Powerlifting:** motion and second “to remove Powerlifting from the list of sanctioned activities.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

Note: Schools wishing to have powerlifting sanctioned are encouraged to contact the ASAA Executive Director regarding the sanctioning process.

➤ **Anchor Lutheran School:** motion and second “accept Anchor Lutheran School’s membership request. To place them into Region 2 and also into the logical Region 2 conferences for activities they may offer.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Gold Lifetime Passes:** motion and second “approve the AASB nominations for those to be honored with an ASAA Gold Lifetime Pass.

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Hockey Individual Non-School Participation :** motion and second “to remove the limits on Individual Non-School Participation policy from the hockey policy .

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Web: www.asaa.org

➤ **Kodiak and North Pole basketball classification:** motion and second “to place the Kodiak Girls into the 3A Southcentral conference and the North Pole open team into the 3A Aurora conference beginning in the 2026-27 season for the activity of basketball. Both teams will be ineligible for the State tournament for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 seasons and then eligible for the State Tournament during the 2028-29 and 2029-30 seasons. The teams will then be returned to 4A for the 2030-2031 season.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Bartlett/BDEA Hockey Co-op:** motion and second “to approve a co-op for the activity of hockey between Bartlett and Bettye Davis East Anchorage high schools for the 2025-26 season.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Election of Association President:** motion and second “to elect Stacia Rustad to the position of Board President for the 2025-2026 school year.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Election of Association Vice President:** motion and second “to elect Patrick Callahan to the position of Board Vice President for the 2025-2026 school year.”

(Motion Carried - Unanimous Consent)

**Board Directives and Discussions:** The Board of Directors engaged in discussions and provided direction as follows:

➤ **Baseball At-Large Selection Committee:** The Board discussed using systems such as the RPI to assist a selection committee in determining at-large selections. Discussion included whether the at-large pool should consist of all non-qualifying teams or only the “last team out” from conference tournaments. A final determination will be made prior to the start of the baseball season.

➤ **Wrestling Duals Policy:** The Board reviewed ongoing concerns about small dual meets with excessive forfeits. The Wrestling Coaches Committee continues to work on a solution.

➤ **Student Eligibility Committee:** A committee consisting of one representative from each Region was formed to review eligibility requirements for student participation. Attendance at the



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initial meeting was limited due to scheduling conflicts. Current focus areas include academic standards related to credits enrolled, credits earned, and GPA requirements.

➤ **2026-2027 ASAA Calendar of Events:** The Board reviewed drafts for the 2026–2027 ASAA Calendar of Events. Due to the shift in the school-year calendar, members discussed adjustments intended to improve scheduling and event quality for cross country, flag football, and tennis. The Board agreed that hosting the **State Cross Country Championships on October 3, 2026**, would be optimal. To accommodate that date, the **first allowable cross country practice will begin Monday, July 27, 2026**, and the **first allowable contest date will be Friday, August 7, 2026**.

Proposed state tournament dates include:

- 1A/2A Basketball: March 10–13, 2027
- State Cheer Competition: March 16, 2027
- 3A/4A Basketball: March 17–20, 2027

➤ **State Berth Analysis of Team Sports Berths** The Board directed staff to engage the Activities Committee for input on state berth allocations among conferences. Specific discussion included potential adjustments for 3A basketball and flag football.

➤ **TAD Policy:** The Board discussed revising the policy to focus on consequences for violations while allowing schools to develop educational programs that could reduce suspension lengths. Staff were directed to research possible models.

➤ **2027 Board of Directors Spring Meeting Location:** Region V will host the Spring 2027 ASAA Board of Directors meeting. Region V will propose a location during the December Board meeting.

➤ **Waivers citing Student Mental Health:** The Board acknowledged that mental health challenges may create valid hardships warranting transfer rule waivers but noted concern over misuse of such claims. ASAA may begin requiring documentation from licensed mental health professionals to verify clinical diagnoses.

➤ **Soccer Mercy Rule:** The Board discussed the growing disparity in soccer scores and resulting sportsmanship issues. Staff were directed to collaborate with the Soccer Coaches Committee to develop a “mercy rule” policy.

➤ **State Bids:** State bid applications for Cross Country, Tennis, Swim & Dive, and All-State Music are due November 1, 2025. Awards will be determined at the December meeting.



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- **Flag Football Individual Participation Limitation Rule:** The Board discussed revisiting the current participation limitation to potentially allow schools to play back-to-back games.
- **Good Cause:** ASAA will develop a list of circumstances that may qualify as “good cause” to promote consistency across districts when evaluating eligibility for students in alternative education programs.
- **DI Wrestling Team Point Scoring:** A proposed change was discussed to modify team scoring. Currently, two wrestlers per weight class may score; the proposal would instead count the top 14 wrestlers overall regardless of weight class.
- **Southeast Softball Conference:** The Board reviewed requests from Ketchikan and Sitka to “opt up” in softball and the possible effects on conference alignment and berth distribution at both DI and DII levels.
- **Open Races in Cross Country and Nordic Ski:** Discussion addressed the misconception that ineligible athletes may compete alongside eligible students. The Board reviewed sample language from other states and staff proposals for clarification.
- **State Cheer Competition Awards and Format:** The Board considered changes to encourage participation. Plaques would be awarded to the top two squads in both “Game Day” and “Halftime Routine” categories, while overall championships would still recognize the highest combined scores. Teams could enter one or both categories.
- **Alaska High School Hall of Fame Bylaws Change:** The proposed amendment would allow the Selection Committee to exceed the annual limit of 12 inductees not only for Lifetime Achievement nominees but also for Major Contributor/Sponsor nominees.
- **Music Deadline Fine Policy:** The Board reviewed a proposal to fine schools that miss music event deadlines rather than deny student participation. The policy would include a waiver process for exceptional cases.
- **Ref Reps:** ASAA is collaborating with Ref Reps to develop high school coursework that leads to certification as sports officials.
- **State Wrestling Qualifying:** Due to travel costs for remote schools, the Board directed staff to explore an “open” state qualifying format that allocates a fixed number of entries per school based on enrollment size.



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➤ **Ketchikan DII Soccer Conferences Proposal:** Ketchikan, currently the only DII soccer program in Region 5, proposed creating two conferences with Kodiak and Ketchikan as separate groups. Ketchikan offered to subsidize visiting team travel costs.

➤ **Region 1 DII Track & Field Qualifiers:** Region I requested that its track and field schools be included within the Region II conference. Currently, Region I receives one automatic berth per event but cannot earn at-large berths.

➤ **Football Scheduling Policy:** The Board reviewed a joint request from Barrow, Juneau-Douglas, and Kodiak high schools to reduce the number of airline tickets they must provide to visiting teams as part of the Football Scheduling System beginning in 2026–27.

Current Requirement:

Barrow – 22 tickets

Juneau-Douglas – 36 tickets (JV/Varsity) or 22 (Varsity only)

Kodiak – 22 tickets

Proposed Revision:

Barrow – 18 tickets

Juneau-Douglas – 30 tickets (JV/Varsity) or 18 (Varsity only)

Kodiak – 18 tickets

**Hearings –**

- four appeals were held during the meeting

**Recognition - none**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion and second to Adjourn  
(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

**Upcoming Board Meetings and Workshops**

1. December 8-9, 2025 Board Meeting (Anchorage)
2. February 16-17, 2026 Board Meeting (Anchorage)
3. May 4-5, 2026 Board Meeting (Kodiak)